

Chapter 3

Duties of Field Artillery Targeting and Target Acquisition Personnel

This chapter discusses the duties of key field artillery targeting and target acquisition personnel from radar platoon to battlefield coordination detachment. The field artillery targeting officer and radar section leader play key roles in the targeting and target acquisition process. FA targeting officers provide the FSCoord and maneuver commander with an invaluable resource for planning and synchronizing the integration of FA target acquisition into combined arms operations. Table 3-1 shows the duty positions discussed in this chapter.

Table 3-1. Key Target Acquisition Personnel

Rank	Position	Operational Locations
CPT/LT	Target Acquisition Battery/Detachment Commander	DIVARTY TOC
LT	Radar Platoon Leader	TAB
SFC	Radar Platoon Sergeant	TAB
CW4	Targeting Officer	Battlefield Coordination Detachment
SFC	Targeting NCO	Battlefield Coordination Detachment
CW4/CW3	FAIO	Corps and Division ACE/ISE
CW5/CW4	Targeting Officer	Corps and Division FSE
CW3	Counterfire Officer	DIVARTY TOC
CW2	Assistant Counterfire Officer	DIVARTY TOC
SFC	Senior Targeting NCO	DIVARTY TOC
SFC	Targeting NCO	DIVARTY TOC
CW2	Brigade Targeting Officer	Maneuver Brigade Main CP
CW3	FA Brigade Targeting Officer	FA Brigade TOC
CW2	GS FA Battalion Targeting Officer	FA Battalion TOC
CW2	Division MLRS BN Targeting Officer	DTAC/Aviation BDE
CW2	IBCT Targeting Officer	Targeting Cell, FECC

Rank	Position	Operational Locations
SSG	IBCT Targeting NCO	Targeting Cell, FECC
CW2	IBCT Counterfire Officer	Counterfire Cell, FECC
CWO3	(USMC) Targeting Information Center	Regimental HQ FSCC
SFC	FA Battalion Target Acquisition Platoon Sergeant	FA Battalion TOC

TARGET ACQUISITION BATTERY/DETACHMENT COMMANDER

The target acquisition battery (TAB)/detachment (TAD) commander commands the entire battery/detachment in garrison. When deployed, the commander supervises the HQ platoon element's coordination of maintenance, supply, administration, and communications support. However, supported units assume all support functions once TAB/TAD assets are committed. In addition, the commander performs the following duties:

- Acts as a special staff officer providing TA expertise and advice to the DIVARTY/FA brigade commander during the planning and execution of the counterfire battle at the counterfire headquarters or acts a TOC duty officer in the divisional MLRS battalion TOC.
- Assists in developing, writing, and disseminating TA Tab to the FASP.
- Ensures the battery is deployed and functioning in accordance with the FASP.
- Ensures the battery elements receive proper administrative, logistic, and maintenance support.
- Coordinates higher-level maintenance support to facilitate mission requirements.
- Monitors the employment of all TA assets within the division area.
- Performs other duties as directed by the DIVARTY S3 and divisional MLRS battalion commander.

RADAR PLATOON LEADER

The radar platoon leader is the officer in charge of the radar platoon. He supervises the activities of the radar platoon. Other duties include the following:

- Performs necessary tactical coordination for FA radars in general support (GS) of the division. This coordination includes communications, security/force protection support and ADA, positioning (engineers and land clearance), logistics, and administration.
- Inspects maintenance of platoon vehicles and equipment.
- Monitors the mission support requirements of all TA radars within the division area.

- Informs the TAB commander and counterfire officer on the status of field artillery TA radars.

RADAR PLATOON SERGEANT

The radar platoon sergeant is the senior enlisted soldier in the platoon. He assists the radar platoon leader in the performance of his duties. His other responsibilities are:

- Trains and rates radar section chiefs.
- Coordinates survey support for GS radars as required.
- Supervises maintenance and training of five TA radar sections.
- Provides input to radar deployment orders (RDO) as necessary.
- Provides input to the counterfire officer required to construct and maintain the TA capabilities chart.
- Monitors the deployment of the radar sections and recommends general position areas, search areas, and cueing agents to the counterfire officer.
- Coordinates the distribution of replacement personnel and administrative actions.
- Facilitates maintenance support for the TA radars.

FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION TARGET ACQUISITION PLATOON SERGEANT

The FA target acquisition platoon sergeant is the senior field artillery targeting noncommissioned officer in the FA battalion assigned to light units and separate brigades of the National Guard. He assists the target acquisition platoon leader in the performance of his duties. His other responsibilities are:

- Coordinates survey for assigned radars as required.
- Provides input to RDOs as necessary.
- Constructs and maintains the TA capabilities chart.
- Monitors the deployment of the radar section and recommends general position areas, search areas, and cueing agents and cueing guidance to the S2/S3.
- Facilitates maintenance support for TA radars.
- Collects and disseminates information provided by the intelligence section and applies their products to the tactical employment of TA assets and counterfire operations.
- Monitors the operations, status, and current and proposed locations of FA radars in zone.
- Assists the S2 in developing TA coverage to include command and control relationships of organic and attached TA assets.
- Provides input to the S2 for consolidation into the TA Tab.
- Helps maintain the artillery order of battle database and target files.

BATTLEFIELD COORDINATION DETACHMENT TARGETING OFFICER

The battlefield coordination detachment (BCD) targeting officer is a senior warrant officer. He performs duties assigned by the plans officer. Some of the duties of the BCD targeting officer are:

- Receives and helps integrate target lists from the ARFOR TOC into the joint target list.
- Coordinates and integrates the ARFOR target list during development of the ATO.
- Answers questions regarding ARFOR target list priorities, timing of attack, desired means of attack, and effects.
- Provides update briefings as required on the status and operation of ARFOR deep operations assets.
- Supervises operation of AFATDS for target development and information exchange with the ARFOR TOC.

BATTLEFIELD COORDINATION DETACHMENT TARGETING NCO

This senior NCO performs duties assigned by the BCD plans section senior fire support noncommissioned officer and is responsible for setup and operation of the plans section. His duties include:

- Sets up the map board depicting the planned friendly situation.
- Establishes communication links with the ARFOR G3 plans section, deep operations coordination cell (DOCC), and theater missile defense (TMD) cell.
- Processes ARFOR requests for AI and CAS by using standard theater army command and control system (STACCS), theater battle management core system (TBMCS), and AFATDS.

An additional skill identifier (ASI) of F9, AFATDS operator/supervisor is required.

CORPS AND DIVISION FIELD ARTILLERY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

Field artillery intelligence officers (FAIO) have key responsibilities in the targeting process. They are the link between the detect and deliver functions of D3A. FAIO's perform these specific duties:

- Co-locates in the analysis and control element (ACE)/intelligence support element (ISE) with the all source targeting section with access to the communications intelligence (COMINT), electronic intelligence (ELINT), imagery intelligence (IMINT) and situation development sections.
- Develops targets from available intelligence.
- Establishes connectivity between the all-source analysis system (ASAS) in the ACE/ISE and AFATDS in the FSE.

- Ensures proper translation of all-source analysis system (ASAS) to AFATDS target types facilitating target attack.
- Assists with establishing alarm criteria in the ASAS targeting computer to expedite the reporting of critical targets, defined by type, location, size, and reporting time.
- Provides fire support subject matter expertise to the ACE during the MDMP process to assist in developing the order of battle, IPB products, HVTL and likely NAIs.
- Monitors the enemy situation and recommends changes to targeting priorities and attack means.
- Provides input concerning the threat, TSS, attack guidance, and HPTL.
- Provides information to the ACE/ISE regarding accuracy requirements and timeliness of information for fire support systems.
- Ensures targets meet TSS requirements before being passed to the FSE for engagement
- Advises the FSCoord or DFSCoord when changes in the situation warrant reassessment of the HPTL and AGM.
- Refines and updates AI and ATACMS nominations to corps.

CORPS AND DIVISION TARGETING OFFICER

The corps and division targeting officer reviews, correlates, and prepares all targeting products and information briefed during rehearsals and targeting meetings in accordance with command directives. The targeting officer ensures that the current situation in AFATDS contains the proper guidances and FSCM. He is also responsible for consolidating, coordinating and disseminating the restricted target list. In addition, the targeting officer performs the following duties:

- Develops targets from available intelligence.
- Works with the collection manager and FAIO to integrate targeting requirements into the ICP.
- Prepares the HPTL/AGM.
- Passes targeting products to the TAC FSE and subordinate FSEs.
- Participates as a member of the targeting team.
- Keeps the FAIO informed about changes to HPTL, AGM and TSS.
- Keeps the DFSCoord and G3 targeting chief informed about issues concerning targeting and fire support.
- Participates in the MDMP process.
- Submits CAS/AI and ATACMS nominations to corps.
- Provides the commander with a unit resident nuclear target analysis capability to support operations in a potential nuclear environment.

DIVISION COUNTERFIRE OFFICER

The counterfire officer (CFO) is assigned to the DIVARTY headquarters where he manages TA assets for the division. He develops and issues radar deployment orders (RDOs) to all radar sections controlled by the division. Duties of the counterfire officer include the following:

- Supervises the target processing section at the division counterfire headquarters.
- Follows TSS when developing enemy targets and suspected targets.
- Provides target location error (TLE) information on available FA TA assets to the FSE or FSCoord as a basis for their TSS recommendations to the targeting team.
- Acts as the principal advisor to the S2 on employment of FA TA assets.
- Writes the TA Tab to the FASP.
- Coordinates TA planning and execution with the DIVARTY or FA brigade plans officer, the order of battle (OB) officer, and the TAB commander. Recommends the following:
 - Target acquisition coverage and cueing schedule.
 - Command and control of TA assets.
 - Positions for FA target acquisitions resources.
 - Tracks TA assets.
- Uses AFATDS/IFSAS and the target production map to ensure that TA assets are properly oriented and cued and targets are expeditiously attacked.
- Ensures targeting information from other sources is developed to produce targets.
- Monitors and operates the DIVARTY TA/intelligence frequency-modulated (FM), and digital nets.

DIVISION ASSISTANT COUNTERFIRE OFFICER

The assistant counterfire officer is assigned to the TAB and positioned in the counterfire headquarters when deployed. He is the assistant TOC team chief for the B shift. Some of the duties of the assistant CFO are:

- Acts as the CFO when the DIVARTY counterfire officer is absent.
- Supervises the targeting element of the counterfire headquarters.
- Ensures targets generated by the targeting element are passed to the fire control and operations elements for action.
- Ensures information from shelling reports (SHELREPs) and mortar bombing reports (MORTREPs) are integrated into the target development process.
- Recommends target selection standards for field artillery TA assets.
- Recommends general position areas for field artillery TA resources.
- Ensures that all targeting element maps, charts, and records are kept current.

- Acts as a cueing agent for radars, when required.
- Assists the DIVARTY S2 in the integration of TA assets into the intelligence collection plan.
- Assists the counterfire officer with writing the TA Tab to the FASP.

SENIOR FIELD ARTILLERY TARGETING NCO

The 13R40 (SFC) targeting NCO assigned to the CTAD performs all duties normally performed by the 1SG of a TAB. In addition, the senior field artillery targeting NCO performs the following duties:

- Conducts map reconnaissance of general position areas for location of weapon locating radars assigned to the CTAD.
- Collects and disseminates information provided by the intelligence section and applies their products to the tactical employment of TA assets and counterfire operations.
- Monitors the operations, status, and current and proposed locations of FA radars.
- Assists the CFO in developing TA coverage to include command and control relationships of organic and attached TA assets.
- Provides input to the S2 for consolidation into the TA Tab.
- Provides the CFO with recommendations for positioning GS TA assets, and establishing sectors of search and radar zones.
- Helps maintain the artillery order-of-battle database and target files.
- Assists in the development of cueing guidance for all TA assets.

TARGETING NCO

The 13F40 (SFC) targeting NCO assigned to the CTAD is responsible for setup and operation of the target processing section. His duties are:

- Leads, supervises, and trains the targeting element.
- Sets up and maintains all targeting element maps, charts, and records.
- Ensures AFATDS is properly initialized and used in conjunction with the targeting information from the target production map and other sources to produce targets.
- Assists in recommending employment of fire support means to include Naval gunfire and CAS.
- Ensures targets generated by the targeting element are passed to the fire control and operations elements for action.
- Ensures information from shelling reports (SHELREPs) and mortar bombing reports (MORTREPs) are integrated into the target development process.
- Helps maintain the artillery order of battle database and target files.

BRIGADE TARGETING OFFICER

The targeting officer from the DS FA battalion normally resides in the maneuver brigade Main CP. He facilitates the exchange of information between the analysis and control team (ACT), brigade combat team (BCT) S2, DS battalion S2 and the FSE. He performs these duties:

- Coordinates with the striker platoon leader on striker team availability and positioning.
- Helping the BCT S2 develop the target acquisition and reconnaissance and surveillance plans.
- Helps provide staff supervision of target acquisition assets attached, organic or under control of the BCT.
- Develops, recommends, and disseminates the HPTL and AGM, to the FSE, CP and subordinate elements.
- Coordinates with the BCT S2 for target acquisition coverage and processing of HPT.
- Produces the TSS matrix for TA assets working for the BCT.
- Manages target lists for planned fires.
- Works with the DS battalion S2 to integrate counterfire operations into the BCT plan.
- Coordinates and distributes the restricted target list in coordination with the FSO.
- Acts as the brigade FSO in his absence.

FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE TARGETING OFFICER

The FA brigade targeting officer's duties are determined by task organization and the mission assigned to the FA brigade. The field artillery targeting officer primary duty is acting as a counterfire officer when the FA brigade is assigned the mission as counterfire headquarters. The targeting officer's normal duties include:

- OIC for the targeting element.
- Advises the commander/S3 on employment of any attached TA assets.
- Develops the TA Tab to the FASP.
- Develops RDOs for any attached radars.
- Recommends radar coverage and positions for attached radars.
- Builds target files derived from radar acquisitions to identify trends in indirect fire systems positioning.
- Maintains the enemy order-of-battle database.
- Ensures target production overlays are properly maintained.
- Ensures maneuver graphics are up to date.
- Battle tracks acquisitions and friendly FA / TA assets both manually and digitally.

GENERAL SUPPORT FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION TARGETING OFFICER

The GS FA battalion targeting officer assists the FA battalion S2 and S3 with targeting conducted at the FA battalion level. He also has additional responsibilities in counterfire and radar employment based on the battalion's assigned mission. The primary responsibilities of the GS FA battalion targeting officer are:

- Requests BDA from higher headquarters.
- Conducts predictive combat assessment (CA).
- Provides targeting input through the use of automated devices.
- Assists the FA battalion S2 in tracking the enemy order of battle.
- Assists the FA battalion in tracking the friendly scheme of maneuver.

In division and corps GS FA battalions, the targeting officer is in the intelligence section. In addition to his targeting duties, he functions as an assistant S2. His duties include the following:

- Assist the S2 and S3 in target production, processing, and administration and external targeting coordination.
- Assist the S2 with order of battle development and IPB.
- Help the battalion S2 write the intelligence, TA, and surveillance portions of the FASP, to include the RDO when applicable.
- Help plan for and manage attached, organic, and OPLAN TA assets.
- Assist the battalion S2 and S3 with development and execution of the FA TA and counterfire plans.
- Assist the S2 in identifying commander's critical information requirements (CCIR).
- Supervise the intelligence section in the absence of the S2.
- Perform officer in charge (OIC) shift duties for the S2 section.
- Conducts CA and requests BDA from external sources/higher HQ.

DIVISION MLRS BATTALION TARGETING OFFICER

The division MLRS battalion (DMB) targeting officer can perform the same duties as the GS FA Battalion Targeting officer or perform alternate duties in support of the aviation brigade or division deep operations. When performing these alternate duties, the DMB targeting officer assists the aviation brigade FSO with targeting and SEAD planning to support division deep strikes with attack aviation. He also plans deep targets for future shaping operations. The primary responsibilities of the DMB targeting officer when performing these alternate duties are:

- Uses electronic intelligence (ELINT) overlays to implement/facilitate SEAD plans and conduct complementary SEAD in support of deep attack aviation assets.
- Receives targets of opportunity and BDA reports directly from Apache and Kiowa helicopters conducting attack operations.

- Supports the aviation brigade FSO by running the FSE to enable the FSE to conduct 24-hour operations.
- Recommends CFZ coverage on critical fuel and re-supply positions (FARP).

IBCT TARGETING OFFICER

The IBCT targeting officer locates in the targeting cell of the FECC and works closely with the lethal and non-lethal effects cell of the FECC to develop targets. He focuses on target information received from TA sources and uses AFATDS to collect, analyze and process this information into required target guidance and instructions. In addition, the targeting officer performs these duties:

- Develops and provides IPB products to other targeting team members.
- Works with the effects battle captain to develop, periodically assess and update:
 - TSS.
 - HPTL.
 - DBA requirements.
 - Attack/effects guidance matrix (A/EGM).
 - Target/effects synchronization matrix (T/ESM).
 - DST.
 - Targeting requirements to focus reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition (RSTA) assets and operations
- Requests and obtains combat assessment reports. Assess and makes recommendations to update targeting products and operations.
- Supports IBCT targeting meetings as required.

IBCT TARGETING NCO

The IBCT targeting NCO teams with the targeting officer in the targeting cell of the FECC to provide a 24-hour capability to plan and coordinate targeting operations. The targeting NCO performs these duties:

- Operates and maintains the targeting AFATDS.
- Maintains the targeting situational awareness (SA) display.
- Maintains the target production display.
- Inputs targeting SA information into the FECC SA display.
- Updates and purges targeting files.
- Ensures acquired targets are processed and forwarded to the lethal effects cell or the appropriate fires and effects assets in accordance with the T/ESM.
- Maintains classified files for the targeting and counterfire cells.
- Performs duties of the targeting officer when he is unavailable.
- Prepares and maintains required daily journals and reports.

- Ensures essential digital and voice connectivity.

IBCT COUNTERFIRE OFFICER

The IBCT counterfire officer locates in the counterfire cell of the FECC. He coordinates and controls the employment of the IBCT TAP in consultation with the deputy effects coordinator (DECOORD), the FA battalion S2 and S3 and the IBCT S2. The counterfire officer performs the following duties:

- Recommends and updates:
 - TA coverage.
 - Command and control of FA TA assets.
 - Position areas for FA TA assets.
- Orients FA TA assets to ensure required coverage of the IBCT battlespace.
- Tracks FA TA assets.
- Processes target attack with the lethal effects cell.
- Maintains situational understanding (SU) of targeting operations.
- Recommends TSS.
- Uses TSS to develop enemy artillery targets and suspect targets.
- Provides target location error (TLE) information on available TA assets to the DECOORD as a basis for TSS recommendations to the targeting team.
- Supports the targeting officer and the effects battle captain (EBC) in providing targeting products.
- Advises the IBCT commander and effects coordinator (ECOORD) on counterfire and targeting operations.
- Supports targeting meetings as required.

USMC TARGETING INFORMATION OFFICER

The USMC targeting information officer (TIO) is a member of the artillery regiment special staff. He is responsible for advising the division fire support coordinator and his staff on all targeting matters. He is intimately involved in the IPB process with the division G2 and develops targeting products for the maneuver commander. He is located at the division FSCC. His duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Produces or assists in the production of the:
 - HVTL.
 - TSS.
 - HPTL.
 - AGM.
- Coordinates with TA agencies to facilitate rapid information gathering and responsive fires.
- Coordinates with the G2 during the execution of the intelligence collection process.

- Ensures the identification, dissemination and engagement of targets to support the maneuver commander.
- Ensures reporting and analysis of battle damage assessment and munitions effects.